



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
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News Release

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Board Considers Response to Vaccine Shortages

*Wednesday, June 12, 9:30 a.m.–3:45 p.m., Grays Harbor County Public Health
& Social Services Department, Pearsall Building, 2109 Sumner Ave., Aberdeen*

When the State Board of Health meets Wednesday, June 12 in Aberdeen, it will consider an emergency rule that would allow the state health officer to temporarily adjust state immunization requirements when a vaccine shortage exists. Children are required to be fully immunized, according to a schedule adopted by the Board, before attending school or a licensed child care facility.

The rule change would ensure that children who delay receiving a DTap—diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis—booster because the vaccine is in short supply would be able to enroll under “conditional status” this fall. When the state health officer declares the shortage over, children on conditional status will have 60 days to bring their immunizations up to date. The rule change would also update state rules to reflect the most current national guidelines.

The Board will consider issuing a Preproposal Statement of Inquiry to begin a discussion of incorporating new federal arsenic standards into state rules governing public water systems, and it has asked for a review of the Department of Health timeline for revising the Food Code. It also will hear a short update on school indoor air quality. Finally, the Board will honor the contributions of The Honorable Neva Corkrum and the The Honorable Margaret Pageler, longtime Board members whose terms are expiring.

Copies of the agenda and related materials are available by contacting the Board of Health at (360) 236-4110 or by visiting the Board’s Web site at www.doh.wa.gov/sboh/.

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The State Board of Health serves the citizens of Washington by working to understand and prevent disease across the entire population. Established in 1889 by the State Constitution, the Board provides leadership by suggesting public health policies and actions, by regulating certain activities, and by providing a public forum. The governor appoints ten members who fill three-year terms. Visit the board’s Web site at www.doh.wa.gov/sboh/.